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CLEARWATER MAN CHARGED WITH POSSESSION, RECEIPT AND DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

Tampa, Florida - Acting United States Attorney James R. Klindt today announced the return of a three-count indictment charging Kevin McMahon, a 61-year-old resident of Clearwater, with distribution, receipt and possession of child pornography. If convicted, McMahon faces a mandatory minimum five years' imprisonment up to twenty years' imprisonment on counts one and two and up to ten years' imprisonment on count three. According to the indictment, from June 25, 2006 to December 1, 2006, McMahon distributed, received and possessed one or more matters which contained visual depictions of child pornography.

The case was investigated by Federal Bureau of Investigation Innocent Images Task Force. The FBI's Innocent Images Task Force is a multi-agency task force comprised of the FBI, the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, the Largo Police Department, the Manatee County Sheriff's Office, the Lakeland Police Department, and the United States Probation Office. The Task Force is an intelligence driven, proactive investigative initiative that combats the proliferation of child pornography and child sexual exploitation facilitated by the Internet. The mission of the Innocent Images Task Force is to reduce the vulnerability of children to acts of sexual exploitation and abuse facilitated through computers; identify and rescue witting and unwitting child victims; and to investigate and prosecute sexual predators who use the Internet to sexually exploit children for personal and financial gain. The case will be prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Patricia A. Kerwin.

An indictment is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed a violation of the federal criminal laws, and every defendant is presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty.